

Elyria probes dumping of industrial waste at landfill

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ELYRIA — Industrial waste materials which violate Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards have been dumped at the Elyria landfill on Garden Street. And city officials are turning to the EPA for help.

Mayor Michael Keys released information about the materials yesterday but did not say what kinds of industrial wastes have been dumped at the landfill, only that they could be toxic.

Between 400 to 500 barrels of unacceptable materials have

been dumped at the landfill between July 1 and Aug. 26, the mayor said. Keys said he did not have previous knowledge about the dumping, and would not say who alerted him to the problem.

City officials will begin an investigation into the illegal dumping, he said. He plans to contact the Ohio EPA for guidance concerning any action the city could take to correct the problem.

Neither the protection agency or its northeast district office in Twinsburg had heard word of a complaint as of yesterday.

A spokesperson for the Twinsburg office said a city's health department has a primary responsibility of monitoring landfill operations. Normally, the EPA will do its own inspection of a complaint once the agency is

contacted by city officials.

Keys said the city's investigation would determine how and why the material was accepted by the

landfill, which is operated by the city sanitation department. The mayor said there could be disciplinary measures taken against

city employees if they are found responsible for accepting the materials.

Keys said he is getting more

information from the sanitation department, headed by Jack Byam, and would not release any more details until next week.

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